

Christianity. The Christian rites and festivals alone remained.

Modern Spanish bullfights appear to be a survival of the old sports of the arena. Bullfights were introduced into Italy in the fourteenth century. They were general in the fifteenth century. The Aragonese brought them to Naples and the Borgias to Rome.¹ We hear of a kind of gladiatorial exhibition at some festivals in India early in the nineteenth century.² There were gladiators also in Japan³ and in Mexico.⁴

642. The *cantica*. Roman drama ran down to pantomime with explanatory recitation, that is, *cantica*. From the seventh to the tenth century few dramas were produced with dialogue. Some biblical narratives, legends of saints, and profane compositions from that time exist, which are probably *cantica* to be accompanied by pantomime at fairs or in church porches.

643. Passion for the games. It certainly was not on account of any decline in the taste for amusement that the games declined. In the fifth century, when the Vandals were besieging Carthage, "the church of Carthage was crazy for the games," and the cries of those dying in battle were confused with those of the applauding spectators at the games. The leading men of Treves were gratifying their love of feasting when the barbarians entered their city.⁵ The people of Antioch were in the theater when the Persians surprised them, about 265 A.D.⁶

644. German sports. Amongst the Germanic nations, from a very early period, popular amusements consisted in pantomimes, mummary with animal masks, horseplay by clowns, etc. The feast of Holda, or Berchta, during the first twelve days of January, was an especial period for those sports. From the sixth century there was also a pantomime of the

strife of winter
and spring.⁷

645. The *mimus* from the third to the eighth century. As the culture drama fell into neglect the *mimus* was left in possession of the field. The culture drama, as we have seen, was built

¹ Gregorovius, *Lucret. Borgia* ^ 220. ² Dubois, *Mceurs de Flnde* ^ II, 331.

⁸ JAI, XII, 222.

* Bancroft, *Native Races of the Pacific Coast*, II, 305.

⁶ Salvianus, *De Gubernat* Dei*, VI, 69, 71, 77.

* Anamianus Marcel., XXIII, v, 3. ⁷ Grimm, *Deutsche MytkoL*, 166, 440.